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THE Feed SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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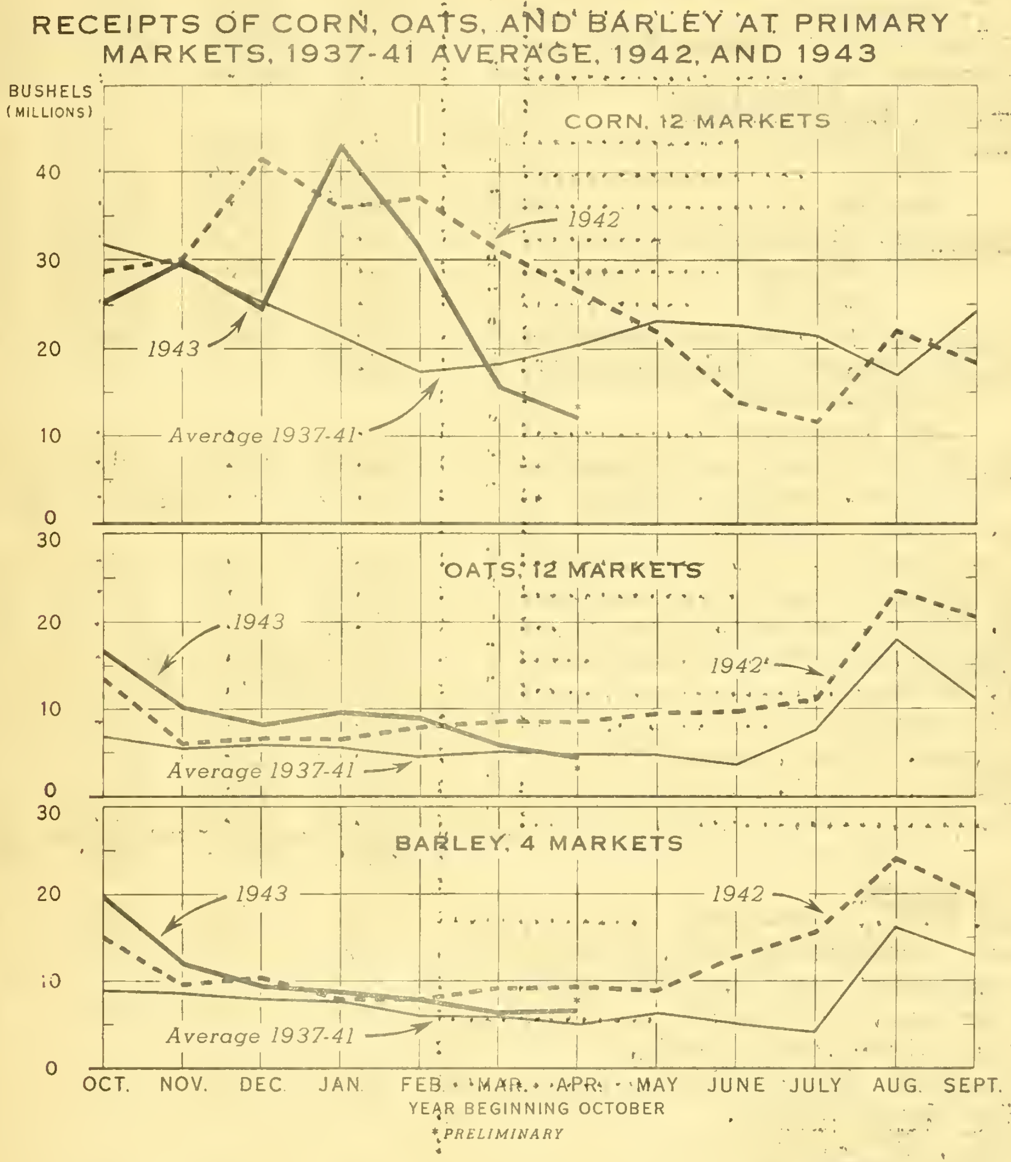

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43566 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Receipts of corn, oats, and barley at principal terminal markets have shown a consistently downward trend since the last week in January, and for the greater part of the time have been considerably smaller than in the same period a year earlier. In contrast to increased demand from all classes of users, weekly receipts at these markets during the first half of April were only about one-half as large as in early April a year ago, and were below the average for the 5-year (1938-42) period for the same weeks.

Table 1.- Market prices of feeds and livestock-feed price ratios, April 1942, 1943, and February-April 1944

Item	Unit	Apr.		1944		
		1942	1943	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 1/
Grains		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Corn No. 3 Yellow, Chicago	Bu.	82.3	103.1	114.6	115.5	115.5
Oats No. 3 White, Chicago	"	55.1	67.3	80.5	80.5	80.5
No. 3 White, Minneapolis	"	51.9	61.5	79.1	79.3	79.5
Barley, No. 3, Minneapolis	"	71.1	84.7	133.2	134.5	134.9
Wheat No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City	"	114.6	138.4	163.0	165.2	164.0
Rye No. 2, Minneapolis	"	71.8	80.9	122.5	123.5	128.1
Byproduct Feeds (bagged)						
Standard bran, Minneapolis	Ton	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75
Chicago	"	39.90	39.90	39.80	39.80	39.80
Buffalo	"	42.25	41.75	41.55	41.55	41.55
Standard middlings, Minneapolis	"	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75
Chicago	"	39.50	39.90	39.80	39.80	39.80
Buffalo	"	39.60	41.75	41.55	41.55	41.55
Cottonseed meal, 41 pct. protein, Memphis	"	35.25	38.60	48.50	48.50	48.50
Linseed meal, 34 pct. protein, Minneapolis	"	37.50	51.40	45.50	45.50	45.50
30 pct. protein, San Francisco	"	41.95	52.00	47.00	47.00	47.00
Soybean meal, 41 pct. protein, Chicago	"	41.00	40.60	51.90	51.90	51.90
41 pct. protein, Decatur	"	37.75	37.00	2/48.50	2/48.50	2/48.50
Peanut meal, 45 pct. protein, S. E. milling points	"	46.75	38.00	53.00	53.00	53.00
White hominy feed, Chicago	"	31.00	43.75	50.00	50.00	50.00
Gluten feed, 23 pct. protein, Chicago	"	26.75	32.50	41.50	41.50	41.50
Tankage, digester, 60 pct., Chicago	"	74.00	3/74.55	3/74.55	3/74.55	3/74.55
Meat scraps, Chicago	"	70.00	3/71.50	3/73.50	3/73.50	3/73.50
Fish meal, San Francisco	"	77.50	79.50	79.50	79.50	79.50
Alfalfa meal, No. 1 fine, Kansas City	"	30.80	32.90	41.30	47.40	47.40
Mixed dairy feed, 16 pct. protein	"	44.00	51.60	58.80	59.00	59.40
Laying mash	"	57.60	63.20	72.00	72.00	72.20
		Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Index of Feed Prices						
Feed grains, U. S., 1910-14=100		124	154	181	182	4/182
Oilseed meal, terminal markets, 1935-39=100		131	136	166	166	166
Livestock byproduct feeds and fish meal, terminal markets, 1935-39=100		162	165	166	166	166
Ten principal high-protein feeds, terminal markets, 1935-39=100		134	142	166	166	166
Livestock-Feed Price Ratios, Index Numbers, 1923-42=100 5/						
Hog-corn ratio, Chicago		146	125	100	103	101
Beef steer-corn ratio, Chicago		112	106	90	91	91
Butterfat-feed ratio, U. S. 6/ 7/		92	107	95	101	4/104
Milk-feed ratio, U. S. 6/ 7/		103	112	110	115	4/118
Egg-feed ratio, U. S. 6/		111	120	82	91	4/ 89

1/ Grain prices, average for week ended April 15, byproduct feed prices as of April 11. 2/ Bulk price plus allowance for bags. 3/ Processors' price at Chicago plus allowance for bags. 4/ Preliminary. 5/ For egg-feed ratio 1933-42 = 100. Index numbers above 100 indicate that ratios are favorable to livestock producers. 6/ Adjusted for seasonal variation. 7/ Includes dairy feed payments which began October 1, 1943.

THE FEED SITUATION

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Summary

Disappearance of feed grains from October through March of the present feeding year has been unusually large, principally as the result of record numbers of livestock in the country and increased demand from industrial users. The domestic disappearance of corn in the October-March period was about 6 percent greater than in the corresponding period a year ago, but disappearance of oats was 16 percent smaller. Although no exact data are available, it is estimated that there was about 13 percent less barley and 66 percent more wheat and rye fed from October through March than in the corresponding period of 1942-43.

Stocks of corn and oats on farms, in Government holdings, and in terminal markets on April 1, 1944, were nearly 21 percent smaller than at the same time last year, and nearly 13 percent below the average for that date in the 5-year (1938-42) period. Stocks of corn April 1 amounted to about 1,128 million bushels, 22 percent below the record stocks a year earlier, and 15 percent below the average for that date in the 1938-42 period. Stocks of corn on April 1 were smaller in all regions than a year earlier. Stocks of oats on April 1 were 17 percent smaller than a year earlier and 2 percent smaller than the 1938-42 average for that date.

On the basis of stocks on hand April 1 and the rate of disappearance in the past two quarters, it is estimated that stocks of corn, oats, and barley in the country on July 1 will total between 18 and 20 million tons, the smallest total stocks of these grains on that date since 1937, compared with 29 million tons on hand July 1, 1943.

Effective April 25, sales of corn from farms or elevators in 125 designated counties in Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, and Indiana will be restricted with certain exceptions, to Commodity Credit Corporation. Farmers in the area will be provided shelling and transportation of the corn, and will receive local elevator ceiling prices for the corn sold to Commodity Credit Corporation. The purpose of the program is to obtain adequate supplies of corn for industrial processors.

Pasture condition on April 1, reported at 81, was slightly better than a year earlier and about 7 points higher than the average condition for that date in the 10-year (1933-42) period. As a result of heavy precipitation during March and the first half of April, farm work, particularly seeding new crops, was delayed in nearly all States. The forced delay in seeding oats in some States may cause considerable shifting of intended acreage from oats to corn and soybeans.

-- April 24, 1944

OUTLOOK

BACKGROUND.- Supplies of the four principal feed grains -- corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums -- increased each year from 1937 to 1942, principally as a result of favorable growing conditions. The carry-over of corn, oats, and barley was increased materially in the crop years 1937-40, but in the following 2 years carry-over was reduced as requirements mounted, because of the increase in livestock population. Approximately 171 million grain-consuming animal units were on farms January 1, 1944, the largest number ever recorded. Stocks of corn and oats on January 1, 1944, totaling 68 million tons, were 11 million tons (14 percent) less than on

January 1, 1943. Prices of feed grains increased considerably after the beginning of the war until price ceilings were established. Demand by industrial users for corn has increased steadily as the war has progressed.

Feed Requirements High During First Half of Feeding Year

Feed grain requirements during the first half of the present feeding year have been unusually high, chiefly as the result of the record numbers of livestock and poultry on farms. The total domestic disappearance of corn and oats in the 6-month period October 1943-March 1944, including industrial use, amounted to 73.4 million tons, or a quantity equivalent to .43 ton per grain-consuming animal unit on farms January 1, 1944. This compares with a domestic disappearance equivalent to .45 ton per grain-consuming animal unit on farms January 1, 1943, during the corresponding period of the 1942-43 feeding year, and with .42 ton for the October-March average domestic disappearance per grain-consuming animal unit in the 5-year (1937-41) period.

The domestic disappearance of corn in the January-March quarter amounted to more than 875 million bushels, only slightly smaller than in the same quarter of 1943, which was larger than for that quarter in any previous feeding year. The disappearance of corn during the October-December quarter of the present feeding year was 10 percent greater than a year earlier, and was the largest disappearance on record for that quarter. During the first half of this present feeding year, which began October 1, total domestic disappearance of corn, including corn fed as silage, was 2,309 million bushels, or about 126 million bushels greater than disappearance in the same period of the 1942-43 crop year and 480 million bushels greater than the average for the same period in the 5 years beginning 1938.

The domestic disappearance of oats in the January-March quarter totaled 311 million bushels, 88 million bushels smaller than in the corresponding quarter a year earlier. Total supplies of oats last July 1 (1943 production plus carry-over) were estimated at 1,387 million bushels compared with 1,544 million bushels a year earlier. Total domestic disappearance of oats for the 6 months since last October 1 amounted to 549 million bushels, compared with 652 million bushels in the same period a year earlier. This rate of disappearance is approximately proportionate to the difference between total supplies on July 1 of each of the 2 years.

Table 2.- Domestic disappearance of feed grains, wheat and rye fed, and disappearance of oilcake and oilmeal, by quarters, 1937-44

Year beginning Oct.	Oct.-Dec. 1/	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Total Oct.-Sept.
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
	Corn, oats, barley, and all sorghums for grain				
Average					
1937-41	35,726	24,597	17,994	17,300	95,617
1941	38,070	29,743	21,495	20,087	109,395
1942	44,546	34,317	24,933	23,442	127,238
1943	48,125	2/ 31,868			
	Wheat and rye fed 3/				
Average					
1937-41	898	1,758	600	1,180	4,436
1941	485	1,934	1,154	1,861	5,434
1942	1,924	2,337	3,939	5,275	13,475
1943	3,500	2/ 3,584			
	Soybean, cottonseed, linseed, and peanut cake and meal 4/5/				
Average					
1937-41	1,266	1,089	676	753	3,784
1941	1,260	1,283	927	1,060	4,530
1942	1,783	1,660	1,313	1,185	5,941
1943	1,799	6/ 1,172			

1/ Includes all corn in silage. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Revised. Includes Government grain. 4/ Excludes cottonseed meal used for fertilizer and soybean meal used for low fat flour and industrial products. 5/ Revised. 6/ January and February only.

Stocks of Corn and Oats Smaller in Almost All Sections Than Last Year

The total supply of feed grains available at the present time is not known, but a close indication is given by April 1 stocks of corn and oats, which normally make up about 90 percent of the feed grain supply. On April 1, stocks of these grains on farms, Government held, and in terminal markets totaled 38.4 million tons, 21 percent smaller than at the same time last year, and 13 percent below the average on that date for the preceding 5 years. (Table 6.)

By regions, supplies of corn and oats on April 1 showed the greatest percentage reduction from a year earlier in the North Atlantic States (stocks of wheat for feed in that region were larger than usual, however). The East North Central and West North Central States showed declines of 24 and 22 percent, respectively, from April 1, 1943 stocks of corn and oats. Stocks in the South Central States were 9 percent below those of a year earlier, while in the South Atlantic States they were only 1 percent below April 1, 1943. In the Western States, stocks were 6 percent below those a year earlier.

Stocks of corn April 1 amounted to about 1,128 million bushels, 22 percent below the record stocks on April 1, 1943, and 15 percent below the 1938-42 average for that date. On April 1 stocks were smaller in all sections than a year earlier, and compared with the 1938-42 average were lower in all geographic divisions except the Western States. Compared with a year earlier, stocks on April 1 were 24 percent smaller in the North Central States, 36 percent lower in the North Atlantic States, slightly lower in the South Atlantic States, 10 percent smaller in the South Central States, and 15 percent smaller in the Western States. April 1 stocks on farms, Government owned, and at terminal markets, were equivalent to about 41 percent of the 1943 production of corn for grain, compared with 50 percent on April 1, 1943, and the 1938-42 average of 57 percent for this date.

Stocks of oats on April 1 amounted to 424 million bushels, 17 percent less than stocks on farms a year earlier and 2 percent smaller than the 1938-42 average for that date. Stocks of oats were uniformly lower than on April 1, 1943 in all geographic regions except in the South Central States.

The supply of corn and oats on January 1, 1944 was equal to .40 ton per grain-consuming animal unit on farms, compared with .50 ton on January 1, 1943, and with the 10-year (1933-42) average of .43 ton for that date. The supply of these grains on April 1, per grain-consuming animal unit on farms January 1, was equal to .22 ton, compared with .30 ton on April 1, 1943, and with the average of .27 ton for the same date during the 1933-42 period.

Feed Disappearance in April-June Quarter Expected to be Smaller Than Same Period Last Year

With present stocks of feed grains small in relation to demand at prevailing prices, it is probable that many users will have continued difficulty in obtaining feed grains in the quantities desired, at least until new crop grain is available.

It is expected that the quantity of feed grains fed, including wheat, in the April-June quarter of the present feeding year will be somewhat smaller than in the same quarter last year. The number of cattle on feed for market in the 11 Corn Belt States on April 1 was estimated to be 23 percent smaller than a year earlier, and the smallest in the last 6 years. The quantity of corn fed to hogs and pigs is also likely to be less than in April-June last year, and prospects are for better than average pastures in most sections of the country.

Preliminary estimates now indicate that stocks of corn, oats, and barley on July 1 may total only 18 to 20 million tons. This would compare with 29 million tons on hand July 1, 1943, and would be the smallest stocks for that date since 1937. Stocks on October 1, the seasonal low point for total stocks of feed grains, are likely to be somewhat below average for that date and also will be the smallest since 1937.

Volume of Wheat Used for Livestock Feed at High Level

It is now expected that the total volume of wheat fed in the 1943-44 feeding year, which began last October, may amount to about 440 million bushels, to exceed the record amount of 426 million bushels of wheat fed in 1942-43. An average of about 130 million bushels were fed annually in the 1937-41 period. The large quantity fed in the 1942-43 year came largely from stocks of Government-owned domestic wheat. Normally about 120 million bushels of wheat are fed each year on farms where grown. The rest of the wheat for feed in recent months has come mainly from imports, and has been handled as Government feed wheat.

Table 3.- Estimated disappearance of wheat and rye for livestock feed in the United States, 1930-43 1/

Year beginning October	Wheat fed	Rye fed
	Million bushels	Million bushels
1930	183.4	18.4
1931	173.8	20.0
1932	128.9	11.6
1933	112.1	5.8
1934	100.0	14.2
1935	114.4	15.0
1936	84.4	13.6
1937	150.3	19.2
1938	131.3	18.7
1939	129.0	16.0
1940	81.4	17.0
1941	159.8	22.9
1942	426.0	24.8
1943 2/	440.0	24.0

1/ Includes Government grain fed.
2/ Preliminary estimate.

Preliminary information on the sale of wheat for feed by Commodity Credit Corporation during April indicates that a larger quantity was sold than in any previous month in 1944. The increased sales estimated for April reflect the recent difficulties of feeders in deficit areas of obtaining feed grains in the open market.

Table 4.- Wheat and corn: Commodity Credit Corporation stocks at beginning of year or month, and sales for feed, 1942-44

Year and month	Stocks at beginning of period		Sales for livestock feed		
	Corn	Wheat 1/	Corn	Wheat	Total in 56-pound bushels
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
1942	151,468	160,355	75,194	102,598	185,121
1943	31,547	247,468	45,640	419,642	495,256
1944					
Jan.	1,379	92,315	280	17,614	19,152
Feb.	1,099	87,106	37	11,336	12,183
Mar.	366	117,652	86	15,243	16,418
Apr.	1,109	114,046		2/(28,000)	

1/ Based on reports of regional directors. Prior to May 1943 based on reports of custodians.
2/ Preliminary estimate.

Pasture Condition Better Than Average on April 1; Wet Weather Delays Planting in Most Regions

Pasture condition for the country as a whole on April 1 was reported to be slightly better than on the same date a year earlier, and was estimated to be about 7 points higher than the average condition on that date for the 10-year (1933-42) period. Pastures were mostly dormant on April 1 in Northern States, but prospects appeared to be average or better in practically all States east of the Rockies. The Blue Stem (Flint Hills) pastures of Kansas and the Osage pastures of Oklahoma were reported good, with an ample supply of moisture. Southwestern ranges generally have shown much improvement, with new grass starting, but continued dry weather in the Pacific Northwest has caused range condition in that area to decline. The winter drought had not been relieved in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and the northern two-thirds of California, and prospects for crops and ranges were, in general, not good in this area.

A large part of the principal crop-producing areas of the country experienced the wettest March since 1922, and as a result farm work was delayed in nearly all States. In northern areas, from the Rocky Mountains eastward, the delay of field work is not expected to have a serious effect on acreage planted or on yields, unless wet weather continues. By mid-April much corn had been planted in Texas and Oklahoma, but very little had been planted in other areas. Normally by that time corn has been planted only as far north as extreme southern Virginia, extreme northern Kentucky, and east-central Kansas.

Seeding of oats was delayed and by mid-April only a few States reported much progress. The forced delay in seeding oats and barley in some midwest States may result in considerable shifting in the acreage of these crops, indicated by March 1 intentions, to corn and soybeans.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Sales of Corn in Surplus Area Restricted to Commodity Credit Corporation

Sales of corn from farms or elevators in 125 designated counties in Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, and Indiana will be restricted to Commodity Credit Corporation, effective April 25. The program is to be in effect for 60 days unless the objective of obtaining adequate supplies for industrial processors is reached before that time. The designated counties are substantially the same as designated in the corn set-aside order (FDO 96) of March 24, 1944.

Provision is made for feeders presenting evidence of immediate need to apply to County AAA Committees for authorization from WFA to purchase and transport a limited supply of corn. Effective May 1, corn owned by feed mixers can be used by them in the manufacture of mixed feeds in amounts not in excess of the average amounts used during the corresponding period in 1942 and 1943.

Under the program, War Food Administration will provide shelling service at the farm and transportation to local elevators through contracts with operators of portable shellers. Shelling service and transportation to the local elevators will be supplied at no cost to the farmers, and the farmers will be paid the local elevator ceiling price.

The order was issued for the purpose of obtaining adequate supplies of corn for industrial processors producing corn products for war uses. Many processors had been compelled to reduce operations, and in some cases close down as a result of inability to obtain sufficient corn in the market.

Movement of Feed Grains to Terminal Markets Considerably Under Year Ago

The volume of corn, oats, and barley moving from farm to terminal markets continued the downward trend in March and April that has prevailed since January. Industrial users and mixed feed manufacturers in particular have been in need of larger supplies of all carbohydrate feeds than were available, and demand has been strong at all principal markets. The difficulty in obtaining needed supplies for mixed feed and industrial uses was reflected in the temporary closing of some corn-processing plants, and the reported substitution of clear grades of flour for some ingredients normally used in feed formulas. Because of reports of a possible advance in ceiling prices of corn the Price Administrator announced on April 4 that "No increase in the price of corn is contemplated by the Office of Price Administration during the crop year that ends in October 1944 ..."

Receipts of corn at 12 terminal markets during March totaled only 15.7 million bushels compared with 30.9 million bushels in March 1943, and with an average for that month of 18.3 million in the 5-year (1938-42) period. Receipts at the same markets in each of the 2 weeks ended April 15 were even smaller than the March weekly receipts, and were only about 60 percent of receipts in the corresponding weeks of 1943.

Receipts of oats at the same 12 primary markets during March amounted to only 5.6 million bushels, compared with 8.5 million bushels in March 1943, and with 5.0 million bushels for March in 1938-42. Oats receipts in the 2 weeks ended April 15 were less than 55 percent of receipts in those weeks of 1943.

Barley receipts at four principal terminal markets in March were 31 percent below receipts in March 1943, but were 7 percent above the average for March during 1938-42. Receipts during the week ended April 8 amounted to only 1.0 million bushels, 51 percent of the receipts during the corresponding week in 1943.

Demand Eases Slightly for Oilmeals

Available supplies of oilseed cakes and meals were still short of trade demand in mid-April, although demand was not so strong as in earlier weeks, and the situation was much better than in the case of feed grains. This was due principally to a slackening in demand by mixers who were finding it increasingly difficult to obtain necessary supplies of other ingredients.

Production of the four principal oilmeals (cottonseed, soybean, linseed, and peanut) in February totaled 607,300 tons, about 60,000 tons larger than the February 1943 production. The March production of cottonseed cake and meal was down 19,000 tons from a year earlier, and peanut cake and meal production was 3,000 tons less than in March 1943. March production data for soybean and linseed meals are not yet available. Stocks of both cottonseed and peanut cake and meal at the end of March were down somewhat from a month earlier but were considerably above a year earlier.

Production of gluten feed and meal, brewers' and distillers' dried grains, and wheat millfeeds in March was 4 percent less than in March 1943, but 25 percent greater than in March 1942. (Table 8.)

Disappearance of soybean, cottonseed, linseed, and peanut cake and meal during January and February totaled almost 1,174,000 tons, compared with 1,132,000 tons in the corresponding 2 months of 1943.

Feed Prices Ratios Less Favorable to Poultrymen but More Favorable to Milk Producers

With slightly lower prices for hogs and with feed prices remaining substantially at ceiling levels, the index of the hog-corn price ratio declined 2 percent in April from a month earlier, but was still 1 percent above the 1923-42 average on April 15. Poultrymen were in less favorable position in April than either in March this year or in April 1943, as a result of a greater than seasonal decline in egg prices from February levels. The seasonally adjusted index of the egg-feed price ratio on April 15 was 11 percent below the 120-month (1933-42) average. This compares with an index 9 percent below the 1933-42 average on March 15, and 20 percent above the average on April 15, 1943.

The butterfat-feed ratio on April 15, including dairy production payments, was somewhat more favorable than in March and only slightly less favorable to dairymen than on April 15, 1943. The milk-feed price ratio, including production payments, was relatively the most favorable to producers of any of the livestock-feed price ratios; the seasonally adjusted index on April 15 was 118 percent of the 1923-42 average, compared with 115 a month earlier and 112 on April 15, 1943.

Maximum Prices Established on Brewers' Dried Grains and Malt Sprouts and on Oats Imported from Canada

The Office of Price Administration, on April 10, 1944 (MPR 526) placed maximum prices on brewers' dried grains and dried malt sprouts. The regulation, effective April 15, defined areas of production and distribution, and fixed ceiling prices for each area. Maximum prices at Chicago, which is used as the central basing point, are $34 a ton for brewers' dried grains and $32 a ton for malt sprouts, bulk in carload lots, at the producer level. Prior to issuance of the regulation, prices of these commodities were under ceiling regulation on the basis of the March 1942 "high" price of each individual seller, under provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation.

Amendment 1 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 511 -- Oats, Barley, and Grain Sorghums -- designed to determine maximum prices for purchases and sales of Canadian oats imported or to be imported into the United States was issued by the Office of Price Administration, effective April 17, 1944. Basing points in the United States are used for determining maximum prices on this imported grain. For shipments by lake vessels from Canadian ports on the Great Lakes, prices are comparable with maximum prices for domestic oats of similar quality delivered at the Atlantic seaboard. For shipments by rail from Canada into the United States, prices were established on the basis of 84-1/2 cents per bushel "on track" at Duluth, Minnesota, for shipments into the Middle West and East, and 84 cents per bushel "on track" at Portland, Oregon, for shipments to the West. Prices for other destinations are determined by adding or subtracting the proper carload rail rate differentials over or under Duluth or Portland.

Canadian Grain Stocks Smaller Than Last Year; Large Corn Crop in Argentina

Total stocks of wheat in Canada on March 31, 1944 were estimated at slightly more than 531 million bushels, compared with 754 million bushels on the same date in 1943. Stocks in various positions on March 31 were as follows: In elevators, flour mills, and afloat, 305 million bushels; in transit by rail, 16 million bushels; and on farms, 210 million bushels. On March 31, 1943, stocks were as follows: In elevators, flour mills, and afloat, 420 million bushels; in transit by rail 6 million bushels; and on farms, 328 million bushels.

Total stocks of oats in Canada on March 31, 1944, amounted to 256 million bushels, 217 million bushels of which were held by farmers. This represents a decrease of of 137 million bushels from a year earlier in total stocks.

Canadian barley stocks in all positions on March 31, including a minor quantity in the United States, amounted to almost 116 million bushels, of which farmers were holding 85 million bushels. On March 31, 1943, stocks of barley in Canada amounted to 167 million bushels, or 51 million bushels greater than on the same date this year.

From August 1, 1943, to April 6, 1944, Canada shipped 123 million bushels of wheat, 29 million bushels of oats, and 17 million bushels of barley to the United States -- a total of 4.6 million tons, almost all of which was for feed. Of this amount, nearly 56 percent was shipped from Fort William and Port Arthur. The following table shows the shipments of these grains from Canada to the United States, distributed according to origin. Acreage and supplies of oats and barley in Canada, with exports during the marketing seasons 1937-44, are shown in table 10.

Table 5.- Total shipments and origin of specified Canadian grains to the United States, August 1, 1943-April 6, 1944

Grain	Pacific Coast terminals	Western elevators	Fort William-Port Arthur	Eastern elevators	Total
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Wheat	14,767	20,208	70,356	17,806	123,137
Oats	309	11,879	16,485	175	28,848
Barley	---	3,695	13,095	25	16,815

Source: Canadian Grain Statistics, April 6, 1944.

The new corn crop in Argentina is expected to amount to about 358 million bushels, according to the first official Argentine forecast. Harvesting of the new crop started around the end of March. If expected production is obtained, it will be among the largest for that country, in contrast with the very small crop last year. The new crop corn is not expected to be in condition for marketing in any important volume until sometime in May or June, but the probable surplus available for export and carry-over from the new crop has been officially estimated at about 220 million bushels. Unless the shipping situation improves, it is unlikely that any considerable volume of corn can be exported from Argentina in the coming season. Acreage, production, and exports of Argentine corn in recent years are shown in table 11.

Prices of Most Field Seeds Higher This Year Than Last

Retail prices of field seeds have shown marked increases during the past 3 years (table 12). Prices of 23 kinds of these seeds on March 15 ranged from 24 to 225 percent higher than the average for the 5-year period 1938-42. Prices have advanced most from a percentage standpoint for sudan grass, amber sorgo, lespedeza, seed oats and barley, millet, sweet clover, and red clover. Compared with March 15, 1943, prices have advanced most, from a percentage standpoint, for the same seeds that had shown the greatest advance over average 1938-42 prices. With the exception of a few items, the advance in average United States field seed prices in the past year is roughly comparable to the advance which occurred in the prices of feed grains and hay in the same period. At the present time maximum prices have been established for red, sweet, and alsike clover, alfalfa, and timothy seeds, but not for the other kinds of seeds shown in table 12.

Table 6.- Corn and oats: Stocks April 1, United States, by States and geographic divisions, 1938-44

State and geographic division	Corn 1/			Oats 2/			Total		
	Average 1938-42	1943	1944	Average 1938-42	1943	1944	Average 1938-42	1943	1944
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
Maine	31	20	26	1,817	1,808	1,359	30	30	22
N. H.	37	37	51	93	117	76	2	3	3
Vt.	70	40	40	530	745	451	10	13	8
Mass.	149	111	141	50	50	51	5	4	5
R. I.	26	12	15	11	10	8	1	1	1
Conn.	150	159	120	48	61	24	5	5	4
N. Y.	5,162	8,772	3,115	10,585	15,216	5,984	314	489	183
N. J.	2,580	3,305	2,115	456	477	319	80	100	64
Pa.	18,955	19,709	14,873	10,684	9,400	5,391	702	702	503
N. Atl.	27,160	32,165	20,496	24,274	27,884	13,663	1,149	1,347	793
Ohio	58,839	82,850	61,359	13,753	20,002	9,541	1,868	2,640	1,871
Ind.	76,899	101,937	83,131	12,969	16,422	10,711	2,361	3,117	2,499
Ill.	259,224	228,369	181,749	50,959	47,488	37,822	8,074	7,154	5,694
Mich.	18,161	30,041	15,181	19,193	28,312	11,949	816	1,294	616
Wis..........	19,584	25,356	20,973	30,646	37,216	37,129	1,038	1,306	1,181
E. N. Cent.	432,707	468,553	362,393	127,520	149,440	107,152	14,157	15,511	11,861
Minn.	96,544	92,503	62,715	68,520	73,374	57,170	3,799	3,764	2,671
Iowa	360,192	352,304	294,192	87,239	78,527	77,318	11,481	11,121	9,474
Mo.	62,929	70,168	56,121	15,640	20,828	20,236	2,012	2,298	1,895
N. Dak.	2,296	2,740	1,391	19,848	41,209	33,334	382	736	572
S. Dak.	22,232	40,286	22,489	21,355	42,488	30,315	965	1,808	1,115
Nebr.	72.960	120,609	76,101	16,641	22,983	28.025	2.309	3,745	2.579
Kans.	15,289	33,987	23,662	9,207	11,558	12,811	575	1,136	868
W. N. Cent.	632,442	712,597	536,671	238,450	290,967	259,209	21,523	24,608	19,174
Del.	1,715	1,984	1,188	13	33	17	48	56	33
Md.	7,391	7,537	3,894	268	328	318	211	216	114
Va.	13,183	12,452	10,473	536	843	646	378	362	304
W. Va.	3,853	4,189	4,254	615	610	544	118	127	128
N. C.	21,414	20,544	19,818	1,058	1,126	717	616	593	566
S. C.	10,491	7,709	10,659	1,450	1,346	1,340	317	238	320
Ga.	19,987	15,662	19,430	882	1,117	658	574	457	555
Fla.	2,266	2,220	2,269	7	8	-	64	62	63
S. Atl.	80,300	72,297	71,985	4,829	5,411	4,240	2,326	2,111	2,083
Ky.	26,435	32,054	26,059	469	259	352	748	902	735
Tenn.	26,452	29,027	22,765	554	729	699	749	824	649
Ala.	19,994	18,075	21,262	369	576	472	566	515	603
Miss.	18,484	17,838	16,521	908	900	1,170	532	514	481
Ark.	14,548	12,960	7,982	847	1,344	1,096	421	384	241
La.	8,824	8,234	7,951	454	572	555	254	240	232
Okla.	8,458	8,218	5,423	6,182	4,549	5,295	336	303	237
Tex.	22,425	18,377	22,357	9,272	3,036	4,837	776	563	703
S. Cent.	145,620	144,783	130,320	19,055	11,965	14,476	4,382	4,245	3,881
Mont.	279	401	236	5,238	9,956	10,318	92	170	172
Idaho	524	693	280	2,058	2,843	2,368	48	65	46
Wyo.	299	235	98	1,472	1,680	1,760	32	33	31
Colo.	2,863	4,056	3,611	1,874	2,270	2,096	110	150	135
N. Mex.......	964	980	706	211	194	308	30	31	24
Ariz.	146	147	147	46	53	44	5	5	5
Utah	52	46	321	553	664	1,041	10	12	26
Nev.	6	6	5	67	80	92	1	1	1
Wash.	269	209	270	2,191	4,114	3,213	43	72	59
Oreg.	492	389	445	2,217	3,245	3,557	49	63	69
Calif.	469	517	400	109	285	162	15	19	14
West.	6,363	7,679	6,519	16,036	25,384	24,953	435	621	582
U. S.	1,324,592	1,438,074	1,128,384	430,164	511,051	423,693	43,972	48,443	38,374

1/ Farm and terminal market stocks plus corn owned by the Government. Farm stocks by States are shown in the April 1, 1944, crop report.

2/ Farm and terminal market stocks.

Table 7.- Corn: Distribution of the April 1 stocks, averages 1929-33 and 1938-42, annual 1941-44

Position	Average 1929-33	Average 1938-42	1941	1942	1943	1944
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels
Stocks on farms:						
Sealed	---	261	299	262	116	7
Unsealed	843	948	901	1,028	1,259	1,107
Total	843	1,209	1,200	1,290	1,375	1,114
Other stocks:						
Owned by the Government						
Terminal elevators	---	20	58	18	7	1/
Steel bins	---	47	124	48	18	2/ 1
Country or sub-terminal elevators	---	15	49	9	3	---
Total	---	82	231	75	28	1
Commercial stocks 3/	29	34	14	43	35	13
Total stocks	872	1,325	1,445	1,408	1,438	1,128

Compiled from reports of the Commodity Credit Corporation and War Food Administration.

1/ Included with steel bins.

2/ Includes terminal elevators.

3/ Elevator stocks owned by Government not included.

Table 8.- Production and stocks of specified byproduct feeds, March 1942 and 1943, and January-March 1944

Item	Mar. 1942	Mar. 1943	1944 Jan.	1944 Feb.	1944 Mar.
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
Production					
Cottonseed cake and meal	140.3	147.0	214.5	155.4	128.0
Soybean cake and meal	---	314.7	321.9	358.4	---
Linseed cake and meal	---	61.2	85.3	83.9	---
Peanut cake and meal	1.7	11.9	10.5	9.6	8.6
Gluten feed and meal	85.0	87.2	89.5	82.8	78.4
Brewers' dried grains	11.9	19.3	16.0	15.3	18.3
Distillers' dried grains	29.2	30.7	34.2	32.5	37.5
Wheat millfeeds	348.9	478.9	508.5	452.0	1/458.0
Stocks, end of month					
Cottonseed cake and meal	337.8	39.5	71.5	69.4	63.8
Peanut cake and meal	5.4	2.3	3.4	4.0	3.8

Compiled as follows: Cottonseed cake and meal, Bureau of the Census; soybean and linseed cake and meal, War Food Administration, derived from Census crushings reports; peanut cake and mead, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; brewers' and distillers' dried grains, War Food Administration; gluten feed and meal derived from reports of the Corn Industries Research Foundation, and wheat millfeeds from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9.- Grains: Receipts at primary markets, by months, average 1937-41 and 1941-43, year beginning October
(Data for cover page)

Year	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Total
						Corn,	12 markets 1/						
Av. 1937-41	31,630	29,188	25,219	21,282	17,313	18,332	20,344	23,112	22,649	21,341	16,905	24,139	271,454
1941-42	23,626	24,887	27,809	29,788	30,183	24,533	30,566	25,490	24,552	23,697	20,080	22,288	307,499
1942-43	28,620	30,061	41,329	35,841	37,032	30,878	26,358	21,792	13,913	11,513	21,957	18,405	317,699
1943-44	25,154	29,748	24,517	42,987	31,104	15,676	2/11,878						
						Oats,	12 markets 1/						
Av. 1937-41	6,769	5,382	5,918	5,611	4,356	5,032	4,577	4,753	3,502	7,698	18,049	11,141	82,788
1941-42	6,519	7,140	8,087	8,437	5,524	5,346	5,493	5,772	3,954	6,607	17,732	16,703	97,314
1942-43	13,422	6,029	6,669	6,468	7,946	8,530	8,403	9,401	9,635	11,026	23,494	20,506	131,529
1943-44	16,637	10,102	6,228	9,628	8,844	5,558	2/ 4,398						
						Barley,	4 markets 3/						
Av. 1937-41	8,889	8,506	7,917	7,473	5,896	5,824	5,001	6,150	5,074	4,148	16,074	12,856	93,808
1941-42	9,116	13,239	12,189	8,827	7,221	5,768	4,812	6,065	6,916	4,118	18,870	15,567	112,708
1942-43	14,963	9,488	10,217	7,727	7,465	8,969	9,212	8,655	12,603	15,480	23,889	19,860	148,519
1943-44	19,721	11,896	9,268	8,634	7,476	6,210	2/ 6,036						

1/ Compiled from Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin until June 1, 1942, then from Chicago Journal of Commerce. Twelve markets are: Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Louis, Kansas City, Peoria, Omaha, Indianapolis, Sioux City, St. Joseph, and Wichita.

2/ Based on figures for the first two weeks of April.

3/ Compiled from reports of the WFA, OD, Grain Products Branch. Four markets are Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, and Duluth.

Table 10.- Oats 1/ and barley: Acreage and supplies in Canada, with exports during marketing season, 1937-44

Year of harvest	Area harvested	Stocks Aug. 1	Production	Total supply	Exports 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
			Oats		
1937	13,048	18,379	268,442	286,821	7,874
1938	13,010	19,499	377,382	396,881	13,589
1939	12,790	48,887	384,407	433,294	22,802
1940	12,298	46,931	380,526	427,457	14,138
1941	12,266	41,563	305,575	347,138	3/ 7,947
1942	13,782	28,607	651,954	680,561	
1943	15,407	149,324	482,022	631,346	
1944	4/16,377				
			Barley		
1937	4,331	4,363	83,124	87,487	14,744
1938	4,454	6,448	102,242	108,690	16,499
1939	4,347	12,804	103,147	115,951	12,148
1940	4,342	12,654	104,256	116,910	2,097
1941	5,304	10,908	110,566	121,474	2/ 2,079
1942	6,973	10,821	259,156	269,977	
1943	8,397	69,254	215,562	284,816	
1944	4/ 8,500				

1/ 34-pound bushels.
2/ August-July.
3/ 10 months, August-May.
4/ 1944 objective.

Table 11.- Corn: Area seeded, area harvested, and production in Argentina, with exports during marketing season, 1937-44

Year of harvest	Area seeded 1/	Area harvested	Production	Exports 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
1937	15,051	10,776	340,147	270,027
1938	14,989	7,723	174,163	115,521
1939	13,096	8,653	191,485	133,441
1940	17,791	14,072	408,442	60,297
1941	15,067	12,188	403,048	13,177
1942	12,355	10,103	355,649	8,678
1943	10,226	4,367	76,499	3/ 6,481
1944	4/10,971		5/358,247	

1/ During the fall of the preceding year.
2/ April-March.
3/ 11 months, April-February.
4/ Second estimate.
5/ First official estimate.

Table 12.- United States prices of field seeds on March 15, average 1938-42, and annually, 1941-44

Year	Clover					Korean	Alfalfa	
	Red	Alsike	White	Ladino	Sweet	lespedeza	Common	Grimm
	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. pe 100 lbs.
Average 1938-42 ..	24.65	24.38	66.53	---	10.07	6.87	29.60	34.55
1941	15.60	17.20	82.05	---	7.30	6.40	21.80	26.10
1942	24.60	25.00	88.20	---	13.55	9.05	36.05	40.40
1943	31.65	32.65	83.30	121.90	13.80	9.55	44.95	50.05
1944	43.40	41.10	82.50	206.50	18.55	14.80	47.60	51.60

Year	Timothy	Redtop	Kentucky blue-grass	Common rye-grass	Orchard grass	German millet	Smooth brome	Crested wheat grass
	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.
Average 1938-42 ..	6.86	14.32	22.19	8.69	24.91	3.85	---	---
1941	6.45	13.65	25.05	7.40	28.10	3.85	21.45	18.75
1942	10.25	14.70	26.50	9.65	35.60	4.40	21.46	18.76
1943	8.55	13.75	25.60	10.50	34.95	4.35	15.55	14.95
1944	9.90	20.50	33.55	13.95	40.35	7.30	20.15	18.50

Year	Amber sorgo	Sudan grass	Rape seed	Seed corn		Seed	
				Hybrid	Open pollinated	Oats	Barley
	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per 100 lbs.	Dol. per bu.	Dol. per bu.	Dol. per bu.	Dol. per bu.
Average 1938-42 ..	2.70	4.23	14.07	1/ 6.41	2.11	.58	.78
1941	2.75	4.35	19.65	6.30	2.10	.55	.70
1942	2.75	4.05	22.30	6.90	2.50	.76	.97
1943	4.00	6.45	14.65	7.70	3.35	.96	1.15
1944	7.15	14.15	18.70	8.50	3.75	1.30	1.55

1/ 3-year average.